(d) and (e) Government already utilising electronic media to generate consciousness amongst the citizens. The Ministry is sponsoring a weekly programme 'Apne Adhikar" on all the commercial brodcasting stations of AIR. The Doordarshan and its kendras are also bringing out such programmes from time to time.

(f) and (g) The Ministry has written to the State Government and Union Territories to undertake various programmes to generate consumer awareness. The Ministry is also given financial assistaace to them for this purpose.

Migrant J&K Government employees deprived of ration

1756. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the migrant Government employees living in Jammu division have been deprived of their right to get their ration through the Public Distribution System inspite of the fact that these employees are permanent ration card holders of Kashmir division; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPLLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Central Government has not received any such report.

(b) Does not arise.

Reduction in sugar quota

1757. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the shortage of sugar and high prices, the Fair-Price Shops throughout the country were not supplied full quota of sugar during the month of May and June 1994;

(b) if so, what was the total reduction of quota to the State Governments from May, 1994 onwards;

(c) which are the States whose sugar quota was reduced;

(d) to what extent the State Governments have opposed the cut in the sugar quota; and

(e) what is the position of Madhya Pradesh in regard to the supply of the sugar quota for distribution in the F.P.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) As 5 per cent *adhoc* increase in levy sugar allocations for the PDS was made to all States and UT Administrations w.e.f. August, 1991. Due to constraints in the availability of sugar the 5 per cent *adhoc* increase in the allocations has been withdrown for all States and UTs, w.e.f. April, 1994. The quota for individual fair price shops is, however, decided by the State Governments and UT Administrations.

(d) Many State Governments have sought restoration of the 5 per cent *adhoc* increase in the levy sugar allocations.

(e) Madhya Pradesh is presently being given a monthly levy sugar allocation of 25,031 MTs. The Madhya Pradesh Government has also been given a festival quota of levy sugar of 7,536 MTs per annum for distribution through the Public Distribution System.

Amendment in Edible Oil, Seed and Oil Order, 1977

1758. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering the plea of the corporate and cooperative bodies for

the restoration of their original entitlements or storage of edible oils, Government have amended the Edible Oil, Seed and Oils Order, 1977 exempting these organisations from its purview;

(b) if so, whether the exemption has been granted in view of the large scale market intervention operations being undertaken by these bodies;

(c) whether the market price of edible oil had shown a rising tendency in March/April '94;

(d) whether in a bid to curb further increase in the prices, Government have withdrawn the exemption granted to various organisations under the Storage Control Order of 1977; and

(e) to what extent the decision to waive the limit of the stocks of edible oil has helped in checking the rise in price of edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Government have recently amended the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils Storage (Control) Order, 1977, an dexempted certain organisations holding stocks on Government account for undertaking price support operations. In respect of other Cooperatives, the stock limits have been readjusted so as to regulate the stocks of oilseeds/oils held by them on regular basis.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The exemption to certain categories of organisations and readjusted limits in respect of other Cooperatives etc. under Edible Oil Storage (Amendment) Order are expected to have sobering effect on the prices of edible oils. Price variations are dependent on a number of factors like total demand and supply of edible oils in the country, production of edible oil seeds, import of palmolein and stocks of edible oilseeds held by various organisations etc. In view of this it is difficult to quantify the impact of a single factor on the prices of edible oils.

Empowering BIS to check selling of spurious goods

1759. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Standards (BIS) is being empowered to search and sezie any factory or shop suspected of manufacturing or selling spurious goods and if so, details thereof;

(b) whether the BIS has drawn up plans to minimise the marketing of inferior quality products; and

(c) if so, its sailent feature and in what manner it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALLUDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) For investigating cases pertaining to misuse of ISI Mark, the Inspecting Officers of the Bureau of Indian Standards are empowered under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 to search any place, premises or vehicle and to seize any article or thing.

BIS is operating a Certificaiton Marks Scheme under which licences are granted to manufacturers for using ISI Mark. Performance of the licensees of BIS and the quality of their products are monitored under this Scheme. All possible measures are taken to effectively enforce the Scheme.

Losses of Hindustan Vegetables Oil Corporation

1760. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated loss sustained by the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation (HVOC);